

## Executive Department

	<u>Actual</u> 2005-06	<u>Current</u> 2006-07	<u>Budgeted</u> 2007-08	<u>Budgeted</u> 2008-09
<b>Department Summary - All Funds</b>				
Positions - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	96.000	96.000	95.000	95.000
Positions - FTE COUNT	0.684	0.684	0.684	0.684
Personal Services	7,583,576	7,898,532	8,224,483	8,420,077
All Other	8,006,904	8,472,162	8,294,125	8,155,967
Capital Expenditures			500	500
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,590,480</b>	<b>16,370,694</b>	<b>16,519,108</b>	<b>16,576,544</b>
<b>Department Summary - GENERAL FUND</b>				
Positions - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	54.000	54.000	53.000	53.000
Positions - FTE COUNT	0.684	0.684	0.684	0.684
Personal Services	3,997,299	4,090,665	4,471,284	4,667,885
All Other	1,437,886	1,537,486	1,457,486	1,457,486
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,435,185</b>	<b>5,628,151</b>	<b>5,928,770</b>	<b>6,125,371</b>
<b>Department Summary - FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND</b>				
Positions - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	22.000	22.000	18.000	18.000
Personal Services	1,803,875	2,009,178	1,610,092	1,562,087
All Other	4,475,544	4,875,118	4,527,978	4,527,630
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,279,419</b>	<b>6,884,296</b>	<b>6,138,070</b>	<b>6,089,717</b>
<b>Department Summary - OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>				
Positions - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	20.000	20.000	24.000	24.000
Personal Services	1,782,402	1,796,689	2,143,107	2,190,105
All Other	2,093,474	2,059,558	2,308,661	2,170,851
Capital Expenditures			500	500
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,875,876</b>	<b>3,858,247</b>	<b>4,452,268</b>	<b>4,361,456</b>

**PUBLIC ADVOCATE 0410****What the Budget purchases:**

The Public Advocate Office is committed to public service in representing Maine utility consumers in any matter that is covered by the authority of the Public Utilities Commission so that they have affordable, high quality utility services. The Public Advocate's Office seeks to carry out this representation in a principled, diligent and compassionate manner.

The office seeks to perform this advocacy role by:

- Arguing for the lowest feasible level of rates and for the delay of increases when supported by adequate evidence.
- Implementing policy set by the Public Utilities Commission, the Governor and the Legislature.
- Maintaining frequent and consistent contact with ratepayer organizations, individual consumers and their representatives in order to better identify emerging problems affecting service quality for utility customers.
- Pursuing in federal agency proceedings and courts each of these objectives in order to protect the interests of Maine ratepayers.

	<u>Actual</u> 2005-06	<u>Current</u> 2006-07	<u>Budgeted</u> 2007-08	<u>Budgeted</u> 2008-09
<b>Program Summary - OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>				
Positions - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Personal Services	1,070,811	1,103,139	1,120,764	1,134,783
All Other	902,681	801,087	583,587	583,587
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,973,492</b>	<b>1,904,226</b>	<b>1,704,351</b>	<b>1,718,370</b>

**Initiative:** Provides funding to cover ongoing contractual obligations, for replacement of computers, to upgrade office furniture to meet ergonomic standards, increased cost of rent and for general operating expenditures.

**OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**

All Other

	2007-08	2008-09
	43,253	21,722
<b>Total</b>	<b>43,253</b>	<b>21,722</b>

**Initiative:** Eliminates funding in fiscal year 2008-09 to reflect the repeal of the program in accordance with Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 1711.

**OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**

All Other

	2007-08	2008-09
		(20,000)
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(20,000)</b>

**Initiative:** Provides funding to cover the projected travel requirements of the State Nuclear Advisor position.

**OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**

All Other

	2007-08	2008-09
	20,995	
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,995</b>	<b>0</b>

**Initiative:** Provides one-time funding for contractual services for the processing of various rate cases before the Public Utilities Commission.

**OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**

All Other

	2007-08	2008-09
	70,000	
<b>Total</b>	<b>70,000</b>	<b>0</b>

	<u>Actual</u> 2005-06	<u>Current</u> 2006-07	<u>Budgeted</u> 2007-08	<u>Budgeted</u> 2008-09
<b>Revised Program Summary - OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>				
Positions - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Personal Services	1,070,811	1,103,139	1,120,764	1,134,783

Executive Department

Revised Program Summary - OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
	<u>2005-06</u>	<u>2006-07</u>	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
All Other	902,681	801,087	717,835	585,309
Total	1,973,492	1,904,226	1,838,599	1,720,092

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

### 0410 Public Advocate

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**Initiative:**

BASELINE BUDGET

	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$1,704,351	\$1,718,370

**Justification:**

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**Initiative:**

Provides funding to cover ongoing contractual obligations, for replacement of computers, to upgrade office furniture to meet ergonomic standards, for increased cost of rent and for general operating expenditures.

	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$43,253	\$21,722

**Justification:**

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**Initiative:**

Eliminates funding in fiscal year 2008-09 to reflect the repeal of the program in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 1711.

	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$-	\$(20,000)

**Justification:**

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**Initiative:**

Provides funding to cover the projected travel requirements of the State Nuclear Advisor position.

	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$20,995	\$-

**Justification:**

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**Initiative:**

Provides one-time funding for contractual services for the processing of various rate cases before the Public Utilities Commission.

	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
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**Other Special Revenue Funds**

**\$70,000**

**\$-**

**Justification:**

## RENEWABLE RESOURCE FUND 0912

## What the Budget purchases:

This program will receive revenue collected by the Public Utilities Commission from voluntary contributions. The funds are intended to be distributed to the University of Maine System, the Maine Maritime Academy, or the Maine Community College System for research and development and to Maine based nonprofit organizations, consumer-owned electrical cooperatives, community-based nonprofits, and community action programs for demonstration projects using renewable energy technologies.

	<u>Actual</u> 2005-06	<u>Current</u> 2006-07	<u>Budgeted</u> 2007-08	<u>Budgeted</u> 2008-09
Program Summary				
	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0

Initiative: Provides funding for initiatives that were funded in prior years through revenue fund transfers and authorizes the use of the estimated balance forward.

## OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

All Other

	500	500
Total	500	500

	<u>Actual</u> 2005-06	<u>Current</u> 2006-07	<u>Budgeted</u> 2007-08	<u>Budgeted</u> 2008-09
Revised Program Summary - OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS				

All Other

			500	500
Total	0	0	500	500

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

### 0912 Renewable Resource Fund

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**Initiative:**

Provides funding for initiatives that were funded in prior years through revenue fund transfers and authorizes the use of the estimated balance forward.

	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$500	\$500

**Justification:**

## Public Utilities Commission

	<u>Actual</u> 2005-06	<u>Current</u> 2006-07	<u>Budgeted</u> 2007-08	<u>Budgeted</u> 2008-09
<b>Department Summary - All Funds</b>				
Positions - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	73.000	73.000	73.500	73.500
Positions - FTE COUNT	0.500	0.500		
Personal Services	6,349,172	6,628,471	7,015,436	7,302,040
All Other	16,739,983	18,278,706	24,563,570	26,373,164
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,089,155</b>	<b>24,907,177</b>	<b>31,579,006</b>	<b>33,675,204</b>
<b>Department Summary - FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND</b>				
Positions - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000
Personal Services	210,193	211,971	253,186	256,340
All Other	409,289	424,919	426,591	426,591
<b>Total</b>	<b>619,482</b>	<b>636,890</b>	<b>679,777</b>	<b>682,931</b>
<b>Department Summary - OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>				
Positions - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	70.000	70.000	70.500	70.500
Positions - FTE COUNT	0.500	0.500		
Personal Services	6,138,979	6,416,500	6,762,250	7,045,700
All Other	16,330,694	17,853,787	24,136,979	25,946,573
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,469,673</b>	<b>24,270,287</b>	<b>30,899,229</b>	<b>32,992,273</b>



## CONSERVATION ADMINISTRATIVE FUND 0966

## What the Budget purchases:

The Conservation Division administers Efficiency Maine and the State Energy Program. Efficiency Maine is the set of statewide, ratepayer funded, electric energy efficiency programs. The State Energy Program is the federally funded set of programs that promote energy efficiency and renewable energy.

	<u>Actual</u> 2005-06	<u>Current</u> 2006-07	<u>Budgeted</u> 2007-08	<u>Budgeted</u> 2008-09
<b>Program Summary - FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND</b>				
Positions - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Personal Services	210,193	211,971	204,858	208,012
All Other	409,289	424,919	424,919	424,919
Total	619,482	636,890	629,777	632,931

**Program Summary - OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**

Positions - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Personal Services	571,218	604,528	613,048	645,599
All Other	970,085	929,880	929,880	929,880
Total	1,541,303	1,534,408	1,542,928	1,575,479

**Initiative:** Reduces funding in the Conservation Administration Fund program to agree with the transfer amount authorized in Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3211, subsection 6.

**OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**

All Other		(12,928)	(45,479)
Total		(12,928)	(45,479)

	<u>Actual</u> 2005-06	<u>Current</u> 2006-07	<u>Budgeted</u> 2007-08	<u>Budgeted</u> 2008-09
<b>Revised Program Summary - FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND</b>				
Positions - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Personal Services	210,193	211,971	204,858	208,012
All Other	409,289	424,919	424,919	424,919
Total	619,482	636,890	629,777	632,931

**Revised Program Summary - OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**

Positions - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Personal Services	571,218	604,528	613,048	645,599
All Other	970,085	929,880	916,952	884,401
Total	1,541,303	1,534,408	1,530,000	1,530,000

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

### 0966 Conservation Administration Fund

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**Initiative:**

BASELINE BUDGET

	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
Federal Expenditures Fund	\$629,777	\$632,931
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$1,542,928	\$1,575,479

**Justification:**

The Conservation Administration Fund budget as submitted provides the commission with funding authority for fiscal year 2007-08 and fiscal year 2008-09, at currently established assessment levels. The commission's allocations are included in the Governor's Unified Appropriations and Allocations Act for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2008 and June 30, 2009.

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**Initiative:**

Reduces funding in the Conservation Administration Fund program to agree with the transfer amount authorized in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3211-A, subsection 6.

	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$(12,928)	\$(45,479)

**Justification:**

Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3211-A, subsection 6 states that the commission annually may deposit funds collected pursuant to this section into the administration fund up to a maximum in any fiscal year of \$1,300,000.

## CONSERVATION PROGRAM FUND 0967

## What the Budget purchases:

The Conservation Division administers Efficiency Maine and the State Energy Program. Efficiency Maine is the set of statewide, ratepayer funded, electric energy efficiency programs. The State Energy Program is the federally funded set of programs that promote energy efficiency and renewable energy.

	<u>Actual</u> 2005-06	<u>Current</u> 2006-07	<u>Budgeted</u> 2007-08	<u>Budgeted</u> 2008-09
<b>Program Summary - OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>				
All Other	5,826,726	6,984,894	6,984,894	6,984,894
Total	5,826,726	6,984,894	6,984,894	6,984,894

**Initiative:** Provides funding to support energy conservation programs for low-income residential consumers, small business customers and other customer groups statewide.

**OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**

All Other		6,090,700	8,182,845
Total		6,090,700	8,182,845

	<u>Actual</u> 2005-06	<u>Current</u> 2006-07	<u>Budgeted</u> 2007-08	<u>Budgeted</u> 2008-09
<b>Revised Program Summary - OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>				
All Other	5,826,726	6,984,894	13,075,594	15,167,739
Total	5,826,726	6,984,894	13,075,594	15,167,739

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

### 0967 Conservation Program Fund

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#### Initiative:

BASELINE BUDGET

	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$6,984,894	\$6,984,894

#### Justification:

The Conservation Program Fund budget as submitted provides the commission with funding authority for fiscal year 2007-08 and fiscal year 2008-09, at currently established assessment levels. The commission's allocations are included in the Governor's Unified Appropriations and Allocations Act for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2008 and June 30, 2009.

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#### Initiative:

Provides funding to support energy conservation programs for low-income residential consumers, small business customers and other customer groups statewide.

	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$6,090,700	\$8,182,845

#### Justification:

Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3211-A directs the Maine Public Utilities Commission to implement energy conservation programs. The commission assesses electric utility companies for revenues to operate the programs. Current assessment projections for fiscal year 2007-08 and fiscal year 2008-09 are \$14.8 and \$16.7 million respectively. Statutory language found in section 3211-A directs the commission to spend all revenues collected on energy conservation programs. The commission shall target at least 20% of available funds to programs for low income residential consumers, at least 20% of available funds to programs for small business customers and, to the extent practicable, apportion remaining available funds among customer groups and geographic areas in a manner that allows all other customers to have a reasonable opportunity to participate in one or more conservation program.

## EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMUNICATION BUREAU 0994

**What the Budget purchases:**

The Emergency Services Communication Bureau, in consultation with the Enhanced 9-1-1 Council, will develop all system elements, standards and cost estimates necessary to provide for the installation and operation of a statewide E9-1-1 system.

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
<b>Program Summary - OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>				
Positions - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Personal Services	397,830	405,975	434,575	442,994
All Other	7,589,197	7,737,174	7,737,174	7,737,174
Total	7,987,027	8,143,149	8,171,749	8,180,168

**Initiative:** Establishes one Planning and Research Associate II position in the Emergency Services Communication program to provide support to the enhanced 9-1-1 database manager.

**OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**

Positions - LEGISLATIVE COUNT		1,000	1,000
Personal Services		63,609	67,147
Total		63,609	67,147

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
<b>Revised Program Summary - OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>				
Positions - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	5,000	5,000	6,000	6,000
Personal Services	397,830	405,975	498,184	510,141
All Other	7,589,197	7,737,174	7,737,174	7,737,174
Total	7,987,027	8,143,149	8,235,358	8,247,315

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

### 0994 Emergency Services Communicaton Bureau

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**Initiative:**

BASELINE BUDGET

	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$8,171,749	\$8,180,168

**Justification:**

The Emergency Services Communication Bureau budget as submitted provides the commission with funding authority for fiscal year 2007-08 and fiscal year 2008-09, at currently established surcharge levels. The commission's allocations are included in the Governor's Unified Appropriations and Allocations Act for fiscal years ending June 30, 2008 and June 30, 2009.

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**Initiative:**

Establishes one Planning and Research Associate II position in the Emergency Services Communication Bureau program to provide support to the enhanced 9-1-1 database manager.

	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$63,609	\$67,147

**Justification:**

The advancement in technologies, namely wireless and Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP), internet based telephone service, has and will continue to dramatically increase the workload of enhanced 9-1-1 (E9-1-1) database staff, of which there is only one person at the current time. This position will be support and back up to the E9-1-1 database manager. There is a strong public safety need to provide additional support to wireline telephone companies, VOIP providers, and wireless companies so as to provide E9-1-1 service for customers within 24 hours of a request. This also involves the coordination of all of Maine's municipalities and townships. This new position will also assist with monitoring the performance of telephone service providers for compliance with state law and administrative rules, as well as Federal Communications Commission rules put in place to protect the 9-1-1 caller.

## PUBLIC UTILITIES - ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION 0184

## What the Budget purchases:

The commission regulates the State's electric, telephone, gas and water utilities as well as water carriers to assure safe, reasonable and adequate service at rates which are just and reasonable to customers and public utilities.

	<u>Actual</u> 2005-06	<u>Current</u> 2006-07	<u>Budgeted</u> 2007-08	<u>Budgeted</u> 2008-09
<b>Program Summary - OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>				
Positions - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	59,000	59,000	57,500	57,500
Positions - FTE COUNT	0.500	0.500		
Personal Services	5,169,931	5,405,997	5,540,537	5,772,942
All Other	1,444,686	1,701,839	1,700,339	1,700,339
Total	6,614,617	7,107,836	7,240,876	7,473,281

Initiative: Provides funding for additional consulting services and the related STA-CAP costs.

**OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**

All Other		206,920	206,920
Total		206,920	206,920

Initiative: Establishes one Public Service Coordinator III position to provide legal advice to the Public Utilities Commission.

**OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**

Positions - LEGISLATIVE COUNT		1,000	1,000
Personal Services		110,481	117,018
Total		110,481	117,018

Initiative: Establishes one limited-period Planning and Research Associate II position. This position will end on June 13, 2009.

**FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND**

Personal Services		48,328	48,328
All Other		1,672	1,672
Total		50,000	50,000

	<u>Actual</u> 2005-06	<u>Current</u> 2006-07	<u>Budgeted</u> 2007-08	<u>Budgeted</u> 2008-09
<b>Revised Program Summary - FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND</b>				
Personal Services			48,328	48,328
All Other			1,672	1,672
Total	0	0	50,000	50,000

**Revised Program Summary - OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**

Positions - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	59,000	59,000	58,500	58,500
Positions - FTE COUNT	0.500	0.500		
Personal Services	5,169,931	5,405,997	5,651,018	5,889,960
All Other	1,444,686	1,701,839	1,907,259	1,907,259
Total	6,614,617	7,107,836	7,558,277	7,797,219

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

### 0184 Public Utilities - Administrative Division

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**Initiative:**

BASELINE BUDGET

	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$7,240,876	\$7,473,281

**Justification:**

The Public Utilities Commission budget as submitted provides the commission with funding authority for fiscal year 2007-08 and fiscal year 2008-09. The commission's allocations are included in the Governor's Unified Appropriations and Allocations Act for fiscal years ending June 30, 2008 and June 30, 2009.

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**Initiative:**

Provides funding for additional consulting services and the related STA-CAP costs.

	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$206,920	\$206,920

**Justification:**

Additional funding is required to carry out the purposes of Resolve 2005, chapter 187 - An Act to Protect Maine's Electricity Consumers and Public Law 2005, chapter 634, An Act to Enhance Maine's Energy Independence and Security.

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**Initiative:**

Establishes one Public Service Coordinator III position to provide legal advice to the Public Utilities Commission.

	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$110,481	\$117,018

**Justification:**

This Public Service Coordinator III, Staff Attorney position will provide legal advice to the Public Utilities Commission related to the regulation of water utilities, dig safe enforcement and the Enhanced 9-1-1 Emergency Services Bureau. This includes drafting rules, conducting hearings and writing recommended decisions. The need for the additional attorney is primarily due to new functions assumed by the commission over the last several years.

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**Initiative:**

Establishes one limited-period Planning and Research Associate II position. This position will end on June 13, 2009.

	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
Federal Expenditures Fund	\$50,000	\$50,000

**Justification:**

This Planning and Research Associate II position will investigate and perform follow-up on reported incidents involving damage to underground utility services and other facilities, and provide off-site and on-site training.



## SOLAR REBATE PROGRAM FUND Z012

## What the Budget purchases:

The Conservation Division administers a solar energy rebate program to help consumers buy solar energy products.

	<u>Actual</u> 2005-06	<u>Current</u> 2006-07	<u>Budgeted</u> 2007-08	<u>Budgeted</u> 2008-09
<b>Program Summary - OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>				
All Other	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Total	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000

**Initiative:** Reduces funding to adjust the solar rebate program budget to agree with the program's statutory end date of December 31, 2008.

## OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

All Other				(250,000)
Total		0	(250,000)	

	<u>Actual</u> 2005-06	<u>Current</u> 2006-07	<u>Budgeted</u> 2007-08	<u>Budgeted</u> 2008-09
<b>Revised Program Summary - OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>				
All Other	500,000	500,000	500,000	250,000
Total	500,000	500,000	500,000	250,000

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**Z012 Solar Rebate Program Fund**

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**Initiative:**

BASELINE BUDGET

	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$500,000	\$500,000

**Justification:**

The Conservation Division administers a solar energy rebate program to help consumers buy solar energy products.

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**Initiative:**

Reduces funding to adjust the solar rebate program budget to agree with the program's statutory end date of December 31, 2008.

	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$-	\$(250,000)

**Justification:**

Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3211-C authorizes the Maine Public Utilities Commission to implement a solar energy rebate program. Section 6 of the statute declares "This section is repealed December 31, 2008."

## PART P

**Sec. P-1. 35-A MRSA §116, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2005, c. 135, §1, is further amended to read:

**1. Utilities subject to assessments.** Every transmission and distribution, gas, telephone and water utility and ferry subject to regulation by the commission is subject to an assessment on its intrastate gross operating revenues to produce ~~a total of no more than \$5,505,000 in revenues annually~~ sufficient revenue for expenditures allocated by the Legislature for operating the commission. The portion of the total assessment applicable to each category of public utility is based on an accounting by the commission of the portion of the commission's resources devoted to matters related to each category. The commission shall develop a reasonable and practicable method of accounting for resources devoted by the commission to matters related to each category of public utility. Assessments on each public utility within each category must be based on the utility's gross intrastate operating revenues. The commission shall determine the assessments annually prior to May 1st and assess each utility for its pro rata share for expenditure during the fiscal year beginning July 1st. Each utility shall pay the assessment charged to the utility on or before July 1st of each year. Any increase in the assessment that becomes effective subsequent to May 1st may be billed on the effective date of the act authorizing the increase.

- A. The assessments charged to utilities under this section are just and reasonable operating costs for rate-making purposes.
- B. For the purposes of this section, "intrastate gross operating revenues" means intrastate revenues derived from filed rates, except revenues derived from sales for resale.
- C. Gas utilities subject to the jurisdiction of the commission solely with respect to safety are not subject to any assessment.
- D. The commission may correct any errors in the assessments by means of a credit or debit to the following year's assessment rather than reassessing all utilities in the current year.
- E. The commission may exempt utilities with annual intrastate gross operating revenues under \$50,000 from assessments under this section.

**Sec. P-2. 35-A MRSA §116, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 1997, c. 586, §4, is repealed.

## SUMMARY

### PART P

This Part creates an assessment mechanism that provides adequate funding to allow the Public Utilities Commission to perform its ongoing responsibilities.